LINDA LINGLE GOVERNOR OF HAWAII





STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

April 22, 2008

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LAND

The Honorable Mufi Hannemann Mayor, City and County of Honolulu 530 South King Street, Room300 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Mayor Hannemann:

I am in receipt of your letter dated April 15, 2008 regarding the City's proposed fixed guideway transit project and the possibility of routing the system through a DLNR parcel in East Kapolei.

As previously indicated, DLNR has been in discussions with the University of Hawaii—West Oahu (UHWO) regarding a possible joint development arrangement for approximately 100 acres of DLNR lands in East Kapolei. During these discussions DLNR has consistently stated that we are willing to commit to a transit alignment which uses a portion of our lands provided the alignment does not result in other portions of our lands being undevelopable/unusable.

Last week we received UHWO's conceptual development proposal for these lands, which includes among other things, a proposed transit route through the DLNR lands. We are agreeable to this UHWO's development concept and its proposal to route the transit project through these areas of DLNR's land.

Please consider this letter DLNR's firm commitment to work with UHWO and your administration to implement this UHWO conceptual plan.

I am asking for the City to provide DLNR and UHWO with a firm commitment to adopt this transit alignment, or to commit to an alternative that is mutually acceptable to the City, DLNR and UHWO. It would be disheartening to say the least, and certainly inefficient for DLNR and UHWO to invest significant time and resources in finalizing this joint development arrangement if they City later rejects the route out of hand.

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I ask that you demonstrate your commitment to work with DLNR and UHWO by appointing someone from within your administration who has the authority to finalize the transit alignment. Please notify my office next week with the name and contact information of your appointee, and I suggest you provide the same notification to Chancellor Awakuni. We have enjoyed our working relationship with the Chancellor, and look forward to the addition of your appointee so we may finalize the alignment and the zoning.

While I do not agree with your statements about other dealings with DLNR, I believe this issue can be resolved in a manner that will meet the needs of all parties involved and look forward to hearing from you.

Very truly yours,

Laura H. Thielen Chairperson

cc: Mr. David McClain, President,
University of Hawaii
Mr. Gene Awakuni, Chancellor
University of Hawaii, West Oahu Campus
Councilmember Todd Apo
Councilmember Rod Tam